

# "FORT SUMPTER."

## First Log Cabin Erected in the District in 1862.

A mile from the business portion of town the ruin of a log cabin, said to be the first ever built in the Sumpter mining district, in 1862. Around it cluster many memories and traditions of the Eastern Oregon gold fields, and its name suggests one of the world's great tragedies.

Hugh Ashbury, Fletcher Anderson, John Reed and James Flanigan are the names of the men who built it. They were all Confederate soldiers and are said to have come from Price's army, but the local historian doesn't relate how they happened to leave the confederate service at that date; when, though the fates, or the God of battles, or heavy artillery, or whatever tribunal is the the arbiter of armed conflicts, probably had decided that contest, the judgment had not then been recorded, and the world was watching the contending armies, in that mighty struggle to settle a governmental problem by the sacrifice of human lives, with all absorbing interest.

But all this is neither here or at John Day postoffice, so far as this log cabin was concerned, nor its ruin is. However it happened, its builders, named above, got away from Price and, better still, the Federal forces, which afterwards whaled the whey out of them, came to California and drifted north. It will be noted what excellent judgment they displayed all through this narrative. Well, it never deserted them when they reached this land of golden promise fulfilled, for they stopped right here, built the much mentioned log house, called it Fort Sumpter and for many years worked with crude device only the richest bars of all the surrounding limitless gold-glittering sands. And many ounces of the yellow dust have they panned out hereabouts in days ago; and many, too, have they right royally blown in, like the thorough-breds they were and are to this present day.

For they are all still alive and vigorous; Hugh Ashbury still lives at Granite, Anderson is in Montana, Flanigan at Baker City and Reed is luxuriating in California's balmy clime.

### Mineral Exhibit at Spokane Fair.

Mining men who attend the Spokane Industrial exposition, which opens October 3, will at least see in Spokane such an exhibit of the mineral resources of this part of the country as Spokane should have made long ago. The people down there went at it right this year and as a result about every camp and district in the Pacific Northwest will be represented there and all with good exhibits. The contests for the prizes and premiums in this department will be animated. The medals which will be won will be of much value to the camps and the mines which may be fortunate enough to win them. The judges who will award these medals and honors are: Professor Henry Landes, M. A., state geologist, department of mining and geology, state university, Seattle, Wash.; Dr. Alfred A. Miller, M. A., Ph. D., department of mining, metallurgy and geology, state university, Moscow, Idaho; Professor S. Shedd, M. E., department of mining and geology, school of science, Pullman, Wash. At the close of the exposition the Spokane chamber of commerce will take charge of this mineral display, at least as much of it as is not returned, and will make a permanent exhibit of ores in Spokane.—Press Bulletin.

### Important Mining Decision.

An important mining decision was recently rendered by the secretary of

the interior, which settled a point that has long been a question among mining men. It was held by many that a patent could not issue for both placer and lode claims, where the lode was not within the exterior limits of the placer location, but the secretary of the interior rules different. He holds that both placer and lode claims may be included in one application. When an abandoned claim is to be relocated a new discovery must be made and a new shaft or a new tunnel started, as the work formerly done cannot be counted as a part of the assessment work. It is as important to define the boundaries the same as though no location had ever been made upon the land. It is not necessary that the new location should conform to the lines of the previous location, as if desired, only part of the location may be included in the new. It is always well to state what portion of an abandoned claim is included in the new location.—Mining and Scientific Press.

### Spokesman-Review Quarterly.

F. O. Baker was in town the latter part of last week delivering the Spokesman-Review Quarterly, "A Million Dollar Check and Other True Treasure Tales," large numbers of which were subscribed for by citizens of Sumpter. It is unquestionably the handsomest piece of printed matter which has been distributed through the Northwest, the work being done in Chicago. On the back cover is a fac simile of the famous check drawn by Lieutenant Governor MacIntosh for \$1,042,054, in part payment for the LeRoi mine. And Baker is the boy who knows how to sell this work of art.

### Another Railroad Rumor.

A proposition is being considered in Baker City involving the connection of that town with Pendleton by means of a railroad line running from the present terminus of the Washington & Columbia river railway. The proposition is to run the line up to the head of some creek emptying into the North Fork of the John Day river, thence to Sumpter.—The Dalles Chronicle.

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